

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheet makes changes to Fig. 2 and replaces the original sheet with Figs. 1 and 2.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

Claims 1, 10, 12, 19-21, 26, 27, 32, 33 and 37-40 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 12, 19, 20, 26, 27 and 32 are amended, claims 6 and 16 are cancelled and claims 37-40 are added. Fig. 2 is also amended to add the legend "Related Art." No new matter is added.

The drawings were objected to based on an informality. By this Amendment, Fig. 2 has been amended to use the legend "Related Art" in accordance with the description in the specification. It is respectfully requested that the objection be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 6, 10, 12, 16, 19-21, 26 and 27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. By this Amendment, claims 1, 12, 19 and 26 have been amended to clarify that the display is provided with a plurality of portions corresponding to each range that can be selected by the driver. The range that is selected by the driver is the target range. The claims are thus clear and definite. Claims 1, 12, 19 and 26 have also been amended to change "position" to "means" as suggested in the Office Action. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 6, 10, 12, 16, 19-21, 26, 27, 32 and 33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over GB 1 588 880 (GB'880). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

GB'880 fails to disclose a range shift display unit, wherein a display is provided with a plurality of portions corresponding to each range that can be selected by the driver including a parking range at which a parking mechanism of a vehicle is locked and at least one range at which the parking mechanism is released, and a display processing means that drives a portion of the display corresponding to the target range by a first driving method and a second driving method, as recited in claim 1.

GB'880 fails to disclose all of the features recited in claim 1 because GB'880 only indicates a change between a lower gear group and an upper gear group. GB'880 discloses a

luminous indicator with a first lamp 63 that indicates an engaged lower gear group and a second lamp 73 that indicates an engaged upper gear group (page 2, lines 94-102). GB'880 fails to provide any disclosure with regard to another lamp.

GB'880 fails to provide any disclosure with regard to using a display that displays a parking range and at least one range at which the parking mechanism is released. GB'880 thus fails to disclose the display of claim 1 that is provided with a plurality of portions corresponding to each range that can be selected by the driver or driving the portion of the display corresponding to the target range (selected by the driver) by two driving methods. In GB'880, a driver can only determine which gear group is engaged. The display unit of claim 1 is thus advantageous over GB'880 in that a driver can view the display to determine whether the vehicle is currently parked or available for immediate movement (i.e., parking mechanism is released).

Accordingly, GB'880 fails to disclose all of the features recited in claim 1. GB'880 similarly fails to disclose all of the features recited in claims 12 and 32 because GB'880 fails to disclose a target range that can include the parking range at which a parking mechanism of a vehicle is locked and at least one range at which the parking mechanism is released, as recited in claims 12 and 32.

GB'880 fails to disclose a range shift display unit with a display processing means that drives a portion of a display corresponding to a target range by two driving methods and that drives portions of the display for transient ranges to blink until a shift means has reached a shift position for the target range during the at least two driving methods, as recited in claim 19.

GB'880 fails to disclose all of the features recited in claim 19 because GB'880 fails to disclose transient ranges. GB'880 discloses a luminous indicator with a first lamp 63 that indicates an engaged lower gear group and a second lamp 73 that indicates an engaged upper

gear group (page 2, lines 94-102). GB'880 fails to provide any disclosure with regard to another lamp. When the lower gear group begins disengagement and the upper gear group begins engagement, the first lamp 63 continues to be lit and the second lamp 73 flashes. Thereafter, when the upper gear group becomes engaged, the first lamp 63 is turned off and the second lamp 73 is continuously lit (page 2, lines 102-117).

GB'880 thus fails to disclose transient ranges that exist between a current range and a target range or drive portions of the display for transient ranges to blink, as recited in claim 19. GB'880 only discloses two lamps 63, 73 that indicate a state of the lower and upper gear groups. When the upper gear group transitions to an engaged state, the second lamp 73 is driven by two driving methods (i.e., blinking and continuous light). GB'880 fails to drive any other portion of a display for a transient range to blink while the second lamp 73 is driven by two driving methods.

For reasons similar to claims 19, GB'880 also fails to disclose the transient ranges of claims 26 and 33.

Accordingly, GB'880 fails to disclose all of the features recited in claims 1, 12, 19, 26, 32 and 33 as well as the additional features recited in the dependent claims thereof. It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1, 10, 12, 19-21, 26, 27, 32, 33, and 37-40 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:SMS/sxb

Attachment:
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Date: April 25, 2005

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